

Tip #52 – Solve a problem by causing a problem

This tip is for all of you who are trying to decide on an ILP, IRP, or other research assignment topic.

We all know lots of problems that need to be solved.

Are you hoping to write a paper that solves a problem?

Try “reverse brainstorming.” Think of all the ways that your problem is caused or could be made worse. Maybe you’ll think of a solution.

Or maybe you’ll have fun thinking of nasty things you would never do, which is probably a lot easier than thinking up a solution.

For some tips and instructions for reverse brainstorming, see http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newCT_96.htm

This site also has techniques for helpful skills for leadership, time and stress management, learning and study, and much more.